## BROWNLOW'S KNOXVILLE WHIG,

AND REBEL VENTILATOR.

VOLUME II.

KNOXVILLE, TENN., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 1865.

NUMBER 10.

## The Knoxville Whig.

BROWNLOW, HAWS & CO.



Beacon of hope to a waiting world! Shining above is the starry throng, A rife in the murky clouds of wrong— louds that shall roll from their beams of light, ill the whole round dome is bine and bright.

Knoxville, Tennessee, April 19, 1865.

MESSAGE OF

## Covernor Brownlow to the Legislature of Tennessee.

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives In accordance with long established custom, and In accordance with long established custom, and in obedience to the requirements of the Constitution, it becomes my duty to communicate to the Legislature the condition of the State, and to recommend for their consideration such matters as I may deem

THANKSGIVING.

When we contemplate the distracted condition of our country, the four dreadful years of trial through we have passed, and the manner in which it has been preserved, our minds naturally turn to Him whose care has been over us, who has protected and preserved us through scenes of blood and carnage, unprecedented in the history of wars. For the preservation of our lives, and certain remnants of our property; for the care and protection of Provi-dence over those who have gone forth to battle, and are still risking their lives in defense of the princi-ples upon which our happiness and property rest; for life, health, food and raiment, for our safe conuct through untold changes, by a kind Providence duct through untold changes, by a kind Providence; for the prospect of the restoration of law and order in our distracted State; for the gleam of light, looking to peace, now breaking through the clouds that have enveloped us for the four years past; for these and numerous other blessings of which we have been the recipients, let us, in all humility and sincerity, render thanks to Almighty God, and let us earnestly implore a continuance of His favor.

Secession is an abomination that I cannot too strongly condemn, and one that your cannot legislate against with too much severity. What has it done for our country in the space of four years?—
It has plunged our country into civil war, paralyzed our commerce, destroyed our agricultural pursuits, supended the whole trade and business of our counsupended the whole trade and business of cut-iry, lessened the value of our property, destroyed many of the pursuits of life, and has involved the South in irretrievable bankruptcy and ruin.

What has it done for Tennessee? It has formed odious and unconstitutinal military leagues, passed military bills, and inaugurated a system of oppresive taxation, without consulting the people, and then, in mockery of a free election, has required them by their votes to sanction its usurpation, at the point of the bayonet, under the penalty of imprisonment and death. It has offered a premium for wime in ordering the discharge of culprits from crime, in ordering the discharge of culprits from prison on condition that they would enter the rebel army, and in recommending the judges to hold no courts for the trial of offenders. It has stained our courts for the trial of offenders. It has stained our statute book with the repudiation of honest Northarn debts, and has palpably violated the Constitution, by attempting, through its unlawful extension,
by do away with the right of suffrage. It has passed laws making it treason to say or do anything in
favor of the Government of the United States, or
against the so-called Confederate States. It has
prostrated and overthrown the freedom of speech
and of the press; it has involved the whole South
in a war whose success is now proven to be utterly in a war whose spacess is now proven to be utterly hopeless, and which, ere another year rolls round, must lead to the ruin of the common people. Its bigoted, murderous and intolerant spirit has sub-ected the people of Tennessee to many grievances. Our people have been arrested and imprisoned; our homes have been rudely entered and shamefully pil-laged; our families have been subjected to insults, our women and children have been tied up and scourged, or shot by a ruffian soldiery; our towns have been pillaged; our citizens have been robbed of their horses, mules, grain and meat, and many of ham assassinated and murdered.

Hundreds, was thousands of our young men, mid-

them assassinated and murdered.

Hundreds, yes, thousands of our young men, middle aged and old men, have been driven from our state, and compelled to enter the Federal army, in strange regiments, and their bones now lie bleaching upon the many battle-fields of the South and west, and all this because our people were true to the traditions of their fathers, and refused to worship rebel gods. And to the honor of the people be it known, that more regiments to-day swell the number of the armies of the Union than there are issing traitors in the ranks of the enemy. iving traitors in the ranks of the enemy.

In this proud capital of the "Volunteer State," here have been thousands of Union refugees, men, women and children, broken-hearted, naked and tarving; a great many are here still. They have led from the wicked and murderous guerrillas, afer being robbed of everything they possessed.—
They have lived in camps or tents, by fires in the
woods, have dragged out a miserable existence for a
ime, and died among strangers. Hundreds have
suffered from actual want of necessary food, shelter single and among a state of necessary food, shelter and clothing, while many residences in this rebelfious city have been occupied by the families of those who were fighting against their country, or being 
ritizen rebels and home truitors, have fled within the 
cobel lines. These families have remained here protected, and have wielded an over-ruling social influence. Many of them are weathy, and live in 
case and comfort. They have busied themselves in 
giving information to the enemy, in carrying delicacies to rebel prisoners who have been confined 
here for their crimes and treason. And it is stated 
upon undoubted authority, and the fact is notorious 
in this capital, that the disloyal families never contributed in the slightest degree to the relief of the in this capital, that the disloyal families never con-tributed in the slightest degree to the relief of the poor and distressed Union women and children or disabled soldiers thrown upon this population by the operations of the war. I state these facts, which may have the appearance of a personal and local character, that you may know how to shape your course when personal and local legislation is called for.

AMENDMENT TO THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION.

I have the honor to submit to the General Assem-bly of the State of Tennessee, a copy of a joint res-olution of Congress, passed by a vote of two-thirds of each house, entitled "A resolution submitting to the Legislatures of the several States a proposition to smend the Constitution of the United States,"

"Resolted, by the Senate and House of Representa-sizes of the United States in Congress Assembled, (two-thirds of both houses concurring therein,) That the following article be proposed to the Legis-latures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when rat-lified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of said States, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as a last of each Constitution, namely:

"Section 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary ser-itude, except as a punishment for crime, whereof he party shall have been duly convicted, shall ex-

ist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.
"Section 2. Congress shall have power to enforce

this article by appropriate legislation.
"Approved February 1, 1865."

The slavery question here comes up in a form hitherto not discussed in our politics. It is not a question as to the right of Congress to exclude slavery from the Territories, to legislate upon the matter themselves, nor does it involve the discussion of any deubtful powers, but is the simple proposition to amend the Constitution of the United States in the manner prescribed by that sacred instrument, so as to strike down the monster institution which has embroiled the Government for half a century, and culminated in the most wicked, uncalled for and bloody war known to the history of the civilized

Slavery, secured to the people of the South more ermanently by the Constitution of the United permanently by the Constitution of the United States, and by the laws enacted in pursuance thereof, than any species of property claimed by themone excepting their lands—will now perish by the war which is brought about to sularge its power and perpetuate its existence. Let us do our part in this great work by ratifying the action of Congress. this great work by ratifying the action of Congreso, and carrying out the wishes of our people. After the ratification by the people of our State of our Amended Constitution, embracing the same propo-sition, and after your election to the General Assembly on this platform, and by the same people, I sary. I may be allowed to say, however, that to prohibit slavery in a State requires a change in the State Constitution. Pregnant as we find slavery to be of all sorts of political mischief, it is not to be got rid of, under the Constitution, in any other than a constitutional manner. And, while the scenar this constitutional manner. And, while the scenar this constitution of the State demands the early and prompt attention of this General Assembly and prompt attention of the State demands the early attention of the State demands the early attention of the State demands the early att can be done the better, it does not appear in what part of the Constitution of the United States the power of regulating it at all, in times of peace, is to be found. Fortunately for the future happiness of the country, the Constitution has provided a way in which the people can remedy the great evil, without any questionable exercise of power, and that is by amending the Constitution just as Congress

has proposed.

Slavery was so far made the subject of constitutional cognizance by the people of the United States, when they adopted the Articles of Confederation, that it found a place in the compromises of that instrument, both in fixing the ration of representations. sentation and the apportionment of direct taxes; and also in requiring the people of a free State to surrender so much of this soveignty as not to have the right to protect the slave that sought refuge from bondage—it would seem too late in the day to was not changed, judging from the uniformity appearance the right of the apple of the state of the result of the result of the same of the result of the result of the same of the result of the same of the result question the right of the people to adopt amendments to that instrument, in regard to this or other
years. Since that time Middle and West Tennessee subjects embraced in its provisions. It becomes us, therefore, to approach this subject with an enlight-ened statesmanship, and with a degree of moral Governor Johnson occupied the Capitel, and exercourage that is not afraid to do right, appealing to cised gubernatorial jurisdiction over those portions of the State held by Federal authority. Governor

It is in this way, and in no other, that a uniform rule can be provided, and an end put thereby, in all time to come, to a possibility of reviving that which has been the fatal cause of all the mischief in the

PROTECTION TO FREEDMEN.

Some legislation is necessary for the protection, government and control of the emancipated slaves among us. When this war is over a portion of those who fought to perpetuate slavery will show the emancipated slaves no quarter, and especially that class of slaves who have been rude and violent toward their former owners. What the character of this legislation should be, I leave the good sense, prudence and reflection of the members of the General Assembly to determine. eral Assembly to determine.

It is certainly proper and right for the Legislature of the State of Tennessee to determine to what ex-tent this State shall be overrun with the emancipated slaves of other States. If their presence in any State is a blessing, they should be distributed; if an evil, it is but just that we should be taxed only with our own share of them. I am, myself, the akvocate of providing for them a separate and appropriate amount of territory, and settling them down perma-nently as a nation of freedmen. In thise case, as in most others, it will probably be well to guard against exceptive legislation. The negro has had no ngency himself in bringing on our troubles, and does not

The attention of the Legislature is earnestly called to the subject of the roving bands of guerrillas and squads of robbers and murderers who frequent those counties and portions of counties remote from those countries and portions of counties remote from our military forces. The depredations and murders committed by them are of such frequent occurrence as to have created a general feeling of insecurity among our citizens, causing hundreds to sacrifice their property and abandon their homes and the graves of their parents and loved ones, seeking new homes, among strangers in the Northwestern States.

INCREASED SEVERITY OF THE LAW

The criminal laws of Tennessee prior to the re-bellion were equal to the demands of justice and the wants of society, but they are now inadequate in both these cases. The corruptions of the rebellion have exhibited themselves in every quarter, and the effects of the same have been to demoralize all classes of society more or less, calling for more classes of society more or less, calling for more stringent enactments, so as to meet the numerous cases arising in our country. I advise that horse-stealing, house-breaking and highway robberies be punished with death. Let the proof in all such cases be clear and unquestionable, and then let the offendors be hung, even for the first offense. This character of a law will close out all those acts of perfidy which now render life and property insecure, more or less in all counties of the State; and when the necessary reform is had, a future Legislature can repeal or amind the statute. Such a law may look to others like a bloody act, but it can never affect injuriously an honest man or a law-abiding citizen. injuriously an honest man or a law-abiding citizen.

And you, gentlemen, should feel no concern for the opposite class of men but to punish and reform them.

MILITIA LAWS.

The attention of the Legislature is especially directed to the militia laws of the State. The occurrences of the past four years have disclosed the fact that our militia laws, as they now are, are very imperfect, and need further amendments to make them effective. The State arms were carried into the rebellion through the influence of the bad men in authority four years ago, and throughout the length and breadth of the State she has not arms enough to arm a captain's company. This deficiency should be provided for at once. I have no doubt but that the Federal Government, upon a fair presentation of the case, would come to our relief with ation of the case, would come to our relief with

If, in the wisdom of the Legislature, an efficient military force, over and above what is provided for in general terms, should be placed at the disposal of the Executive, I suggest an appropriation for military contingent expenses. At any rate, the Legislature would do well to pass an act providing for a Military Contingent Fund, of a moderate character, confiding it under the control of the Executive, and making it his duty to report to the Legislature at each session. Should there be no use for the fund the Executive will of course make no draft upon it, and it will be his pleasure to report that the money and it will be his pleasure to report that the money belonging to the Military Contingent Fund remains in the State Treasury, unexpended.

I am aware that a proposition to increase the sal-aries of public officers in the State will meet with opposition—that it is not a popular measure, and that demagogues will use such a vote upon the stump against members voting for an increase. Acting

sione from a sense of duty, and desiring to me jus-State, I suggest an increase in the pay of all civil officers whose compensation is fixed by law, Supreme Judges should be paid a salary of \$5,000; Chancellors and Circuit Judges should be allowed \$3,000, and the Treasurer, Comptroler, Secretary of State, Attorney General and other officers should be allowed a corresponding increase in their calaries.

And I respectfully but frankly suggest that the pay of members of the General Assembly by increased, and the more so as such increase could not take ef-fect during your term of office.

It is folly to think of a man in public office now

supporting his family on the salary he received four and five years ago. Boarding, clothing, meats, vegetables—in fact, everything has increased to twice former prices. And yet the wages of the public officers are down at the old prices. If any one of the incumbents named is worthy of his office, he is worthy of a support from that office. His pay should be made equal to his necessary expenses.— The State cannot reasonably expect a man to devote his individual time and his whole energies and tal-ents to an office, when the salary of such office will out defrey the necessary expenses of his family.

Gentlemen capable of filling such offices are capable of supporting themselves in other vocations; and it is obvious that they will be forced to turn their attention to other pursuits in order to gain a livelihood. The increase of such salaries will add something to our taxes, but the amount will be so small as scarcely to be felt by the people. I doubt not they will cheerfully contribute in this way to have not considered an elaborate argument in favor of the proposition submitted by Congress at all neces- aid in sustaining good and competent men in impor-

early and proupt attention of this General Assem-bly. The reports of the Countrill bly. The reports of the Comptroller and treasurer are to the first of October, 1861. From that time From that time to the restoration of the capital to the national au-thority in February following, and the flight of the State authorities, the information left us is imper-fect and insufficient. The subsequent operations will appear from the current report of the Compwill appear from the current report of the Comptroller, whose high character for integrity and truth commend him to your confidence. The balance in the Treasury on the first of October, 1861, according to the Treasurer's report, was \$185,496 66. Beside warrants for payment remain in the Treasury for \$60,401 04. Warrants out of the Treasury had been issued bat not presented for \$145,417 12. How far the figure, were modified by the constant. have been generally within the Federal lines, and Harris, who adhered to the rebel cause, is very generally understood to have collected revenue i counties within their military lines. The Comptroller will be found to have given in his report the financial history of Governor Johnson's administrahas been the fatal cause of all the mischief in the country. To insist upon excluding slavery from a State, by amending her Constitution, before recognizing her again as within the pale of the Union, would look awkward, and fall below the dignity of political sagacity. Our State has shown her hand and placed herself square upon the record; and I flatter myself that her representatives here assembled are ready for a measure which shall forever exclude any consideration whether the average of taxes for the past four years shall be collected as a matter for your consideration whether the average of taxes for the past four years shall be collected as a matter for your consideration whether the average of taxes for the past four years shall be collected as a matter for your consideration whether the average of taxes for the past four years shall be collected as a matter for your consideration whether the average of taxes for the past four years shall be collected as a matter for your consideration whether the average of taxes for the past four years shall be collected by the collect current habitudes during that period used the other est on the State debt. The usual payments to com-mon schools and academies, and to the several char-itable institutions of the State, were not made. The consequences of the failure would not be atoned for by reaching them now. The same is substantially true of various other items of ordinary expendi-

The State Dept, as reported by the Comptroller in October, 1861, is said to, be \$6,806,606 tie, and this demands your attention. This includes \$3,000,000 of eight per cent bonds for the "defense of the State," which has recently been discarded by the people at the ballot-box. This unauthorized and most unjust indebtedness repudiated, leaves the indebtedness of the State properly \$3,894,606 tie, at an an annual interest of \$212,388 25. The interest is p esumed to have been paid on the first of January, 1861. It is not known how much has been paid, if any. The bonds will show either by the endorsement or the absence of the coupons. Besides this debt, the State has bonds for internal improvement purposes, and has endorsed the bonds of railroad companies to the amount of \$16,211,000 00. ment purposes, and has endorsed the bonds of rail-road companies to the amount of \$16,211,000 00.— For these the State is ultimately liable upon the failure of the companies. 'These bonds, it is be-lieved, the State wilk, have to provide for, to preserve its credit, making an aggregate indebtedness of \$20,005,606 66, and the annual interest \$1,185,048 25. Of this debt proper, \$66,666 66 matured in 1861; \$61,250 in 1862, \$177,750 in 1863; and \$58,500 in 1864; in all, \$366,166 66, at once to be provided for. The Comptroller states that the provided for. The Comptroller states that the bonds maturing in 1861 were "taken possession of and held by the State, subject to adjustment at the end of the war." Besides these, the State held bonds, mostly her own, as follows: The Spencer T. Hunt Fund, 6; the Railroad Sinking Fund, 161; deposited by free banks, 341; deposited by foreign insurance companies, 80; and in all 588 bonds.— These bonds, held in trust, were carried away, it is elieved, with the valuables of the State Treasury, between with the valuaties of the State Treasury, by the State officers who ingloriously fied on the approach of the National flag. Double payment can probably be avoided. Evidence must be in existence by which they can be identified. The notorious condition of our State affairs has been sufficient to put dealers upon their guard. So that if any of the bonds have been fraudulently sold, payment to be conserved believe the lightly source. the present helders may be justly stopped. Furthermore, it will be well to consider how far it is your duty, as agents of the State, not only not to pay the bonds held by those who have been actively engaged in the rebellion to overthrow the Gov-ernment. Whether held by them or parties who may seek to conecal them for the benefit of rebels, as they will likely do, I advise that you adopt measures to prevent their payment. The bonds can in no event compensate for the loss the disloyal holders have occasioned the State. The justice of holding them responsible in this way, it is believed, cannot be successfully controverted.

twenty-five per cent. of the principal, is more than the people can easily pay at sight, with the other burdens, public and private, thrown upon them by the war. It will be necessary, therefore, to antici-pate the means, so as, at the same time, to preserve the State credit by satisfying the creditors, and to preserve the people from oppressive taxation.

abolishing slavery will require some changes in the revenue laws. The item of slaves will no longer sppear in the list of taxables. The census of 1800 shows there were in the State about 275,000 slaves. The assessors returns show that 130,425 were reported for taxation. Their average value had steadily increased from \$413.72 in 1846 to \$886.40. It is a significant fact that the next year, the first year of the war, the average fell to \$769.36, taxes at the low rate of seven cents upon the one hundred dollars to which our State taxation was reduced in 1860, the slaves averaging a little the rise of sixty-two cents each, amounting to \$80,000 in the aggregate. The slaves had no property. Being emanci-pated, they will now be subjected to a poll-tax.— Many of them will soon acquire taxable property far beyond their personal value as slaves.

As soon as this war ceases, there is every reason to expect a large accession to our poplation. Thousands of sensible and practical men have been here, connected with the army, and have looked with as-tonishment and delight at our productive soil,

ture. They have seen that a farm hand in a North- guardians, for the benefit in many instances of miern State is ordinarily worth from thirty to fifty nors and widows. I think it nothing more than dollars a month—that is to say, he earns that much, simple justice to pay them the interest already due can make five bales of cotton, of five hundred pounds each, which would make the profits of his labor worth \$2,000 per annum against \$600 in a Northern State—a better and more certain business than going to California or any of the gold regions. Therefore it is the value of land with us will be proportionately increased. If the tax of seven cents on the one hundred dellars, to which our burdens had been reduced in 1860, shall be increased to a reasonable extent, it is believed sufficient revenue will be realized in the next three years, over and above the erdinary expenditures, to meet the arrears of interest already due them.

The Nashville and Chattaneoga Railroad was taken possession of by the Federal authorities on the library. It has been almost destroyed by the Federal army. The library, furniture and fixtures are hopelessly destroyed. The main buildings are standing, and it is but was proper and right. Presuming the Government to have kept the account strictly, she is now about ready to make a settlement My information is that to the educational interest of the main buildings are standing, and it is but it to the educational interest of the most loyal pertion of the State, that the Government should place that institution on as good a footing axit found it. A majority of the Board of Trustees turned out to be realized in the next three years, over and above the erdinary expenditures, to meet the arrears of interest already due to the creation destroyed by the Federal army. The library furniture and fixtures are hopelessly destroyed. The main buildings are standing, and it is but to the educational interest of the main buildings are standing and it is but just to the educational interest of the main buildings are standing at the file of the main buildings are standing at the bear and state of the main buildings are standing at the perturbed of the main buildings are standing at them.

There are an above the end and used the proportional interest of the main buildings are standing at the main buildings are or \$600 per annum. In our State a good farm hand can make five bales of cotton, of five hundred

war our financial resources were so ample, compared with the limited demands upon them, that it was not necessary to tax but a few of the principal articles of property. Our affairs are now quite changed, and every interest should be made to bear its proper

The common school system will, in this connec-The common school system will, in this connection, demand your attention. The fund appropriated for the purpose has been squandered by the bad men and dishonest functionaries who fied on the appreach of the old flag. What shall be done to replace this great loss? At no period in the history of the State has the young and rising generation appealed so affectingly for legislative aid. Practically denied all scholastic advantages during the last four years, and deprived, as thousands have been, of their natural protectors, if they are not soon provided for it will be too late for them. Indeed, not a few have already passed beyond the age deed, not a few have already passed beyond the age to stiend school, hopelessly illiterate.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

In this connection your attention is called to an act of Congress providing for the establishment of an Agricultural College. Most of the States are in advance of us in accepting the offer, and perhaps we might profit by examining their legislation in re-gard to this subject.

OUR BANKS. The Currency and the Banks are nearly allied to Finances, and are in such a demoralized condition as to demand prompt action and most positive leg-islation. The State owes it to herself to look into the condition of the three old banks—the Bank of eseec, the Union Bank, and the Planters' Bank —each having its parent bank in Nashville, with affiliated branches extending over the State; also several stock banks, and the free banks. With per-haps one or two exceptions, it is believed they are all hopelessly insolvent. All have, beyond doubt, violated their charters, and may properly be closed up. Nay, where they have value received for their notes, and are worth it, they should be made to redeem their issues. The policy formed by these banks, even before the war, was to keep their paper at lower quotations than that of any of the savend. at lower quotations than that of any of the surrounding States. Even at home it was at a discount, and in some of the neighboring States it was uncurrent. This imposed upon our commerce the payment of large sums of premiums upon all remittances be-yond the State, which, in the end, came out of the

yond the State, which, in the end, came out of the people. Such a currency could only result from unstated where a principles, for the blance of the state with the such that the state of the second that all existing banks be wound up at once, and that no more State Banks be chartered. The several hundred thousands in real estate owned by the State Bank should be cashed without delay. The stock was owned by the State without the several hundred thousands in real estate owned by the State was owned by the State, and it held large deposits of currency and se-curities. As the Union army advanced, the possession and occupation of the towns where the branches were located, the officers fled with the assets beyond the lines of the State, and they are now doubt-less irretrievably gone. In the onset of the rebel-lion, this bank was used by the guilty conspirators, and large issues were made to further their schemes of trason. It has been determined by the people that there issues shall not be paid. There are many notes cutstanding of the bank, issued after the date specified in your amended Constitution, and intended alone for the benefit of the rebellion. Shall they be redeemed by a tax imposed upon the people? I know of no legal or moral obligation to redeem those notes, even if they occupied such an altitude that such an obligation could be enforced. It is known that when bank sotes become uncurrent they are sold by the small holders who are not in condition sold by the small noders who are not in condition to hold such paper, and bought up by speculators generally at their own figures. In this way they accumulate in the hands of a few, often at prices al-most nominal. The notes of the Bank of Tennessee, it is believed, are held in this way and by class of dealers. Having lost the principal of this banking capital, and having sold these issues in banking capital, and having sold these issues in small quantities, at a heavy discount, shall our people be taxed to make these issues good in the hands of speculators. I confess I can see no equity in it. Doubtless instances will occur of individual hardship, and others will be pressed upon your attention, not so much by the parties themselves, as by others interested in the adoption of a general policy based upon these existing cases. There remain to the bank large assets, uncollected debts, and the present liabilities of the faithless officers. Suits are understood to be pending against many of the officers of the branches. The others should be held to their responsibilities. I content myself with these general suggestions, trusting in yeur wisdom, if you

THE NATIONAL BANKS.

The National Banking System is believed on many accounts to be preferable. This would give us a circulation cufrent all over the country, and subject our banking to more correct principles of finance. Other States are adopting the National Banking System, and I recommend the same to the Legislature of Tennessee. Such an institution could be used prefitably as the fiscal agent of the State, and if you can secure the means, one in each State, and if you can secure the means, one in each of the other grand divisions of the State would work

ELECTIVE FRANCHISE.

The qualifications of voters, and other limitations of the elective franchise, have been entrusted to you by the people. This delicate responsibility will devolve upon you a heavy task, and merits your whole attention. That there should be some additional limitations prescribed, few will deny. Many per-sons in the State, by every act of which they were capable, have disfranchised themselves. Probably they neither expect nor desire the privilege of again voting, and would not exercise it if granted them. Many others have committed acts deserving disfran-chisement, who nevertheless will resist it, and strive chisement, who novertheless will resist it, and strive for every civil right they enjoyed before the war, and before their treason had involved the State in so much suffering. While I would not recommend you to give way to the impulse of vengeance any more than to the appeals of sympathy and pity, I would urge you to guard the ballot-bex faithfully and effectually against the approach of treason, no matter in what character it may came. The loyal people of the State, who sent you here, expect you to act decisively in the metter, and to have no child's to act decisively in the matter, and to have no child's play in determining the qualifications of voters.— This subject has been considered by several of our sister States, whose reform was not any more loudly called for than with us. It is quite probable that this action and its effects may assist you in deciding what to accept and what to avoid.

OUR RAILROADS. .

As you are aware, upon the approach of the na-tional forces and their occupation of our country, the Government took possession of our railroads, in most of which the State is a stockholder. The State is deeply interested in her internal improvements, as she has endorsed bonds at the rate of ten thousand

them.

The Nashville and Chattanoogs Railroad was ta-Taxes

It is further suggested that the list of taxable property ungit be increased without being oppressive. By the ratures of 1860, it appears that all other property subject to taxation, besides land, amounted in value to but \$24,362,151—less than one half the assessed value of the town lots. Before the war our financial resources were so ample, compared with the limited demands upon them, that it was with the limited demands upon them.

This road cost the company \$3,846,000, including its structure.

The members representing at the counties will be able to look after their interests, and should feel that the duty devolves upon them.

CONCLUSION.

Having the attention of this General Assemble to look after the attention of the town look

portion of that road in this State, say about sixty miles, with another branch from Bowling Green to Clarksville; and for all that portion of road in our State the Government pays the Kentucky company as if the road were in any other loyal State. The information I have is to the effect that the Kentuc-ky company treats with indifference the claims of Tennesses upon that road. It is your duty to let that company know, in decided but respectful terms, what your rights are, and that you will dare assert

CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATION

The duty devolves upon you at this session, of electing two Sepators to the Congress of the United States, and of re-districting the State, so as, without delay, to provide for the election of eight Representatives to the next Congress. It is with profound regret that I have observed several Republican journals and some leading politicians of ability and influence, are opposed to the admission of Senators and Representatives from Tennessee. They take the ground that the State should be treated as a Territory, and continued under military and continued under militar fory, and continued under military government, sub-ject to the arbitrary orders of military rule. If their dangerous and revolutionary doctrine is adhered to by any considerable portions of Senators and Representatives in Congress, I shall for one, dread the patriotism of Senators, I shall for one, dread the patriotism of Senators, I shall for one, dread the patriotism of Senators, I shall for one, dread the patriotism of Senators, I shall for one, dread the patriotism of Senators, I shall for one, dread the patriotism of Senators, I shall for one, dread the patriotism of Senators, I shall for one, dread the patriotism of Senators, I shall for one, dread the patriotism of Senators, I shall for one, dread the patriotism of Senators, I shall for one, dread the patriotism of Senators, I shall for one, dread the patriotism of Senators, I shall for one, dread the Charleston Mercury establishment from this city a few days previous to the evacuation. This car, with lotte and Columbia Railroad on the evacuation of the last named place. In the confusion which followed, it was impossible to procure a locomotive to remove the train, and the whole of the cars, together or with the State has never been out of the Union, and boldly denying that the unconstitutional and treaswere burned. The pressman also stated that the onstit tional and onable acts of those in rebellion ever carried them out of the Union. Besides, the inauguration of the Vice President from this State, and the withdrawal of a Military Governor, to give place to civil authority, fix the status of Tennessee in the estimation of the Federal authorities proper. And to your good sense and unyielding firmness, I submit this grave question, not doubting that your action will be cor-

STATE PRISON.

Your attention is called to the condition of affairs Your attention is called to the condition of affairs in the State Prison, full and specific details of which are given in the report of the officer who is in charge of that institution. I have every confidence that the Legislature will look into the wants of the institution, and do for it what, in the judgment of members, may seem proper. Meanwhile, I suggest the establishment of branches of the Penitentiary in the Western District, and in East Tennessee. The cost of building, on a moderate scale, would be saved to the State, in fifteen or twenty years, in the single item of a cash market in each end of the State, for provisions to sustain, and raw material to keep the convicts employed in manufacturing—such as lum-ber, marble, iron, coal, leather, etc. The erection of buildings would furnish employment and cash wa-ges to a number of mechanics; and, as there are several salaried officers attached to such an institu-

vicinity, deserves your attention, and your aid. The prosperity and success of that noble State charity were all that its friends and the friends of humanity could desire at the breaking out of this wicked rebellion; but the Institution has struggled hard to keep above the waves of oblivion for four years past. It keeps its deposits in the Bank of Tennessee, and my information is, that when the faithless officers of the bank fled, on the approach of the national flag, they carried with them some \$30,000 belonging to the Institution. For the details in regard to its past operations, and present necessities, I refer you to the report of the Superintendent and Chief Surgeon, a gaithful and intelligent citizen.

ASYLUM FOR THE BIANY.

The Tennessee Blind School, a State institution in this city, has been utterly destroyed by the Federal forces, and the unfortunate pupils, some forty in number, are distributed among their friends, and the friends of humanity. It was not a military nocessity that called for the destruction of the Institution, but it was the work of recklessness, and if this General Assembly will present the subject to the Government at Washington in this light, it is believed that proper steps will be taken to restore this noble charity. The hopes of those pupils at best are blasted, and their cup of bitterness is full, when we have done all that lies in our power. We look out upon the world and we know it by its visible beauty—we know our wives by their affectionate looks, our children by their smiles and features, our neighbors by their faces and manner of address; but neighbors by their faces and manner of address; but these, and all other earthly things, are to those blind people shrouded in darkness, and friends, children and the world are lost to them forever.

these, and all other earthly things, are to those blind people shrouded in darkness, and friends, children and the world are lost to them forever.

DEAF AND DUMB ASYLUM.

The Tennessee Deaf and Dumb School, located at Knoxville, merits your attention, as it is one of the charitable institutions of the State. The exciting events which are daily transpiring in the country, should not induce us to lose sight of those whose importance so strengly appeal to us for aid and comportance so strengly appeal to us for aid and comportance at a heavy expense by the State, are now used for hospital purposes by our army. Of the fourteen Trustees, nine of them went into the rebellion, and most of them fled South. An equal proportion of the officers and teachers of the school proved to be rebels. An early organization of the Institution upon a loyal basis is called for, and it is hoped will attract your attention.

CHANCERY COURT — CLINTON.

M. Ferguson vs. W. W. Walker.

IT APPEARING FROM THE ALLE—Gations of complainant's hill that the defendant, W. W. Walker.

IT APPEARING FROM THE ALLE—William of the fourteen Trustees, nine of them went into the rebellion, and most of them fled South. An equal proportion of the officers and teachers of the school proved to be rebels. An early organization of the Institution upon a loyal basis is called for, and it is hoped will attract your attention.

EAST TENNESSE UNIVERSITY.

The East Tennessee University, located at Knoz-ville, is a time-honored Institution, and was char-

to restore order and presperity to our country. And if one be more preminent than another, it is the necessity for earnest and cordial co-operation between The other roads in the State are similarly situated, and demand your attention. Those officers of roads and stockholders who fied South, carrying with them the rolling stock and funds, should be held to a strict accountability, and their property and stock should be made, in part, to atone for these losses to the State and country. The case of the East Tennessee and Georgia Railroad and its faithless President, requires your especial attention.

It is believed the time has now come for the companies again to use their roads—for the Government, if need be under even a Military Superintentented and the same pay for freight and passengers they are now paying to the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company. As this war is for the benefit of the whole nation, it is not believed that the General Government intends that Tennessee shall pay more than her just proportion of the war debt.

LOUISVILLE AND NASHVILLE RAILROAD.

Your attention is called to the fact that the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company is running a portion of that road in this State, say about sixty portion of that road in this State, say about sixty portion of that road in this State, say about sixty portion of that road in this State, say about sixty portion of that road in this State, say about sixty portion of that road in this State, say about sixty portion of that road in this State, say about sixty portion of that road in this State, say about sixty portion of that road in this State, say about sixty portion of that road in this State, say about sixty portion of that road in this State, say about sixty portion of that road in this State, say about sixty portion of that road in this State, say about sixty portion of that road in this State, say about sixty portion of that road in this State, say about sixty portion of that road in this State, say about sixty portion of that road in this State, say about sixty portion of that road in this State, say about sixty portion of that road in this State, say about sixty portion of the fund of the

ple, should be sacredly and vagilantly guarded, no matter who suffers ruin and disgrace.

WILLIAM G. BROWNLOW. Nashville, April 6th, 1865.

What Became of the Charleston, S. C., Mercury.

The Charleston Charier of March 16th, says

We conversed yesterday with a gentleman who We conversed yesterlay with a gentleman who arrived in this city on Monday evening from Sumter, S. C. In order to reach here he purchased a horse and buggy at Sumter, for which he paid, in rebel scrip, four thousand five hundred dollars. After leaving Florence, he was obliged to swim his horse over the Santee, a distance of four hundred yards. This was successfully performed by an old colored guide, to whom he paid the further sum of \$150. By means of an old batteau he was enabled to save his buggy, which was brought around through the marshes and over several small creeks

to this side of the Santee.

Our informant states that he travelled several hours re burned. The pressman also stated th

General Grant is a fisher of armies. With one end of his mighty seine fixed at Richmond, he sweeps around with the other end from the Mississippi river to the Atlantic coast, and up the coast to the Richmond landing. There, where the two ends of the seine meet, we shall have a grand haul of all sorts of fish—shad and herring, sturgeons and snot-sorts of fish—shad and herring, sturgeons and snot-ers, catfish and eels, crabs, drumfish, swordfish, gud-geons, and porpoise, and the draft may possib y in-clude that regular old hammer-headed shark, Jeff. Davis. The seine is coming ashore, and we can see from the fluttering on the surface inside that the haul will exhaust the "Confederacy."

ATTACHMENT.

Lindsey & Wheeler, Executors, vs. W. H. Malone THE PLAINTIFFS, ON AFFIDAVIT tion, it would distribute the patronage of the State in her three natural divisions. If this be not done, an enlargement of the State Prison will be required. The demoralized condition of both our white and colored population, will cause scores to be sent to the Penitentiary, as our courts go into operation.

ASYLUM FOR THE INSANE.

The Tennessee Hospital for the Insane out of the Tennessee Hospital for the Insane out of the Insane out of the Penitentiary.

Sale of Property.

S. D. Cole, Adm't, &c., vs. Hugh Thompson.

IN ACCODANCE WITH A DECREE

made in this cause at the April term, 1863, of said Court, I
will expose to public sale, at the Court House door in Knoxville,
on Friday, the 5th day of May, 1865, the interest of Hugh
Thompson (being an undivided third) in the farm in Knox
comity on which his mother, Sarah Thompson, resided at the
time of her death, on a credit of eis mouths, without the equity
of redemption, taking bond, hearing interest, with approved
security for the purchase money, and retaining a lien till paid,
apro-4w

D. A. DEADERICK, C. & M.

COUNTY COURT-SRVIER COUNTY. Mary E. McNutt vs. John S. McNutt.

T APPEARING FROM THE ALLE-L GATIONS of the petition in this cause, that the defondant is a non-resident of Tennouses, and that this is an application to remove him as Administrator of W A. McNatt: The Court doth order that publication be made for four successive weeks in Brownlow's Wing, to notify him of this application.

cpr5-4w pra5\*

M. A. RAWLINGS, Cherk.

CHANCERY COURT - CLINTON.